

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 080720
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-08 /019 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:JJZIOLKOWSKI:LB
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DOHA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 080720

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BEXP, QA

SUBJECT: REYNOLDS METALS INTEREST IN PROPOSED ALUMINUM
SMELTER

1. NEA/ARP CONTACTED BY WALTER RICE, FORMER U.S. AMBASSA-
DOR TO AUSTRALIA, NOW WITH REYNOLDS METALS. RICE SEEKING
INFORMATION ON PROPOSED ALUMINUM SMELTER FOR QATAR.

2. REYNOLDS/RICE CONTACTED BY MR. C. N. NASSER REPRESENT-
ING TEYSEER TRADING AND CONTRACTING CO. NASSER STATES
COMPANY IS MANAGED BY ABD AL-RAHMAN AL-MANNAI, WHO IS
ADMINISTRATOR FOR OFFICE OF MINISTER OF INTERIOR. TEYSEER
DESIRES TO BE REYNOLDS' SPONSOR IN QATAR.

3. ACCORDING TO RICE, GOQ IS SEEKING TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEER-
ING AND MANAGEMENT FOR PROJECT AND THAT FOREIGN PARTNER
WOULD PURCHASE ALL OR PART OF SMELTER'S PRODUCTION. REY-
NOLDS IS PARTNER IN SMALL EXTRUSION PLANT IN KUWAIT AND
HAS OUTLETS IN EUROPE AS WELL.

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4. REYNOLDS WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY DOHA OPINION AND
INFORMATION ON FOLLOWING POINTS:

- A) CURRENT STATUS OF PROJECT.
- B) IS QATARI SPONSOR REQUIRED?
- C) AL-TEYSEER TRADING AND CONTRACTING COMPANY AS SPONSOR

FOR PROJECT. (FYI: SO FAR COMPANY REP NASSER HAS DWELLED
ON RELATIONSHIP OF COMPANY MANAGER TO MINISTER OF INTERIOR
AND HAS PROVIDED LITTLE INFORMATION ON COMPANY'S BUSINESS
BACKGROUND. WTDR ON FIRM NOT REPEAT NOT ON FILE AT USDOC.
END FYI)

5. RECENT EMBASSY REPORTING ON DAMAGE TO NGL PLANT AND
QATARI EFFORTS TO SEEK OUTSIDE FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT
PROJECTS WOULD ALSO SEEM TO AFFECT PROPOSED SMELTER
PROJECT. ADDITIONAL EMBASSY INSIGHT HERE WOULD ALSO BE
USEFUL.
VANCE

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